

1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS
2

3 1) An apparatus for executing a document production job to produce
4 job output comprising documents, the apparatus having a plurality of output
5 receptacles for receiving the job output documents, the apparatus comprising:

6 an output distribution module for selectively creating a plurality of job
7 output subsets from execution of a single document production job and for
8 selectively directing one of said plurality of output subsets to one of the
9 plurality of output receptacles, wherein at least two of said plurality of job
10 output subsets contain different numbers of output documents.

11

12 2) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
13 by claim 1 wherein said output distribution module further comprises a subset
14 quantity selector control for specifying a number of documents to place in each
15 of said job output subsets.

16

17 3) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
18 by claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of output receptacles has a unique
19 identifier, and wherein said output distribution module further comprises a
20 subset receptacle selector for selecting which of the plurality of output
21 receptacles to direct each of said plurality of output subsets to.

22

23 4) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
24 by claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises a copier, and wherein the
25 apparatus further comprises a user accessible control interface for at least
26 partially controlling the copier, said control interface being linked to said
27 output distribution module.

28

29 5) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
30 by claim 4 wherein said control interface comprises at least a subset quantity

1 selector for specifying a number of output documents to be placed in each of
2 said plurality of job output subsets.

3

4 6) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
5 by claim 4 wherein said control interface comprises at least a subset receptacle
6 selector for selecting an output receptacle from the plurality of receptacles for
7 directing each of said output subsets to.

8

9 7) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
10 by claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises a printer connected to at least one
11 computer, and wherein at least a portion of said control module comprises
12 program code for execution by the computer.

13

14 8) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
15 by claim 7 wherein said control module further comprises a subset quantity
16 selector for specifying a number of output documents from said single job to be
17 placed in each of said output subsets and a subset receptacle selector for
18 selecting which of the plurality of output receptacles to direct each of said
19 plurality of output subsets to, said subset quantity selector and said subset
20 receptacle selector accessible through the computer.

21

22 9) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
23 by claim 7 wherein said distribution control module comprises a driver running
24 on the computer, and wherein said distribution control module further
25 comprises a subset quantity selector for selecting a quantity of documents to be
26 placed in each of said output subsets, said subset quantity selector comprising a
27 component of said driver accessible through a graphic user interface displayed
28 on the computer.

29

30 10) An apparatus for executing a document production job as defined
31 by claim 9, wherein said driver further comprises a subset receptacle selector

1 for specifying which of the plurality of output receptacles to direct each of said
2 plurality of output subsets to, and wherein said subset quantity selector and said
3 subset receptacle selector are accessible through a table interface.

4

5 11) A copier for executing copy jobs, a copy job comprising
6 generating job output comprising a plurality of documents, the copier being of
7 the type that has a plurality of output receptacle trays each having a unique
8 identifier, the copier comprising:

9 an output distribution control module for selectively creating a
10 plurality of output subsets from the execution of a single copy job and for
11 selectively directing each of said plurality of output subsets to one each of the
12 plurality of output receptacles, at least two of said output subsets having
13 different numbers of output documents therein; and,

14 a user accessible control interface for at least partially controlling
15 the copier, said control interface linked to said output control module, said
16 control interface having a subset quantity selector for specifying a number of
17 copies to place in each of said plurality of output subsets, said control interface
18 having a subset tray selector for selecting by unique identifier which of the
19 plurality of output trays to direct each of said plurality of output subsets to.

20

21 12) A printer connected to at least one computer for executing print
22 jobs, the printer having a plurality of output trays for receiving the printed
23 documents, each of the trays having a unique identifier, the printer comprising:

24 a printer driver for execution by the computer for functional
25 interface with the printer, the printer driver selectively causing the printer to
26 create a plurality of subsets of output printed documents from a single print job
27 and causing the computer to selectively deposit each of said output subsets in
28 different output trays, said driver having a subset quantity selector for selecting
29 a number of output documents to be placed in each of said plurality of output
30 sets, at least two of said plurality of output sets having different numbers of
31 documents, said driver having a subset tray selector for selecting by unique

1 identifier which of the plurality of trays to direct each of said output subsets to,
2 said printer driver accessible through a graphic user interface on the computer.
3

4 13) A printer as defined by claim 12 wherein at least a portion of said
5 graphic user interface comprises a tabular interface for selecting values for said
6 subset quantity selectors and for said subset tray selectors.

7
8 14) A computer program product for use with a document production
9 apparatus, the apparatus for executing production jobs to produce job output,
10 the apparatus being of the type that has a plurality of output receptacles for
11 receiving the job output, the program product comprising computer executable
12 instructions embedded in a computer readable medium, the instructions when
13 executed causing the apparatus to:

14 accept a plurality of input subset quantity selections, each of said
15 subset quantity selections comprising a number of documents to be placed in
16 one each of a plurality of output subsets to be created from the execution of a
17 single document production job, at least two of said subset quantity selections
18 being different from one another;

19 create said plurality of output subsets from the execution of a
20 single document production job, place a number of output documents
21 corresponding to one of said plurality of subset quantity selections in one each
22 of said output subsets; and,

23 direct one each of said plurality of output subsets to one each of
24 the plurality of output receptacles.

25
26 15) A computer program product as defined by claim 14, wherein the
27 computer program instructions when executed further cause the computer to:
28 accept a plurality of input subset tray selections, one each of said
29 tray selections specifying which of the plurality of trays to direct one each of
30 the plurality of output subsets to.

1 16) A computer program product for use with a printer, the printer for
2 executing a print job to produce job output, the printer being connected to a
3 computer and having a plurality of output trays, the computer program product
4 comprising computer executable instructions embedded in a computer readable
5 medium, the instructions when executed causing the printer to:

6 selectively create a plurality of job output subsets from the output
7 of a single print job, each of said output subsets containing a number of
8 documents specified by a user-input subset quantity selection, at least two of
9 said subsets containing different numbers of documents from one another;

10 selectively direct one of said plurality of output subsets to one of
11 the plurality of output receptacles as specified by a user-input subset tray
12 selection; and,

13 wherein said user-input subset tray selections and said user-input
14 subset quantity selections are made through a graphic user interface displayed
15 on the computer.

16 17
17 18) A computer program product as defined by claim 17 wherein at
18 least a portion of said graphic user interface comprises a tabular format for
19 entering said subset tray selections and said subset quantity selections.

20 18
21 19) A computer program product for use with a copier, the copier for
22 executing a copy job to produce job output, the copier having a user accessible
23 control interface for at least partially controlling the copier, the copier being of
24 the type that has an internal processor means, the computer program product
25 comprising computer executable instructions embedded in a computer readable
26 medium, the instructions when executed causing the copier to:

27 create a plurality of job output subsets from the execution of a
28 single copy job, each of said output subsets containing a number of documents
29 specified by a user-input subset quantity selection, at least two of said subsets
30 containing different numbers of documents from one another;

1 direct each of said plurality of output subsets to one of the
2 plurality of output receptacles as specified by a user-input subset tray selection;
3 and,

4 wherein said user-input subset tray selections and said user-input
5 subset quantity selections are made through the copier user interface.

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